Hudson
HUDSON HENDERSON INSURANCE BROKERS
FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS
INFO@HUDSONHENDERSON.COM
888-522-4999
HALIBURTON 173 Highland St
MINDEN 12269 Highway 35
LINDSAY 259 Kent St W
CANNINGTON 11 Cameron St W
BANCROFT 69 Hastings St N

The Times
MINDEN ONTARIO
Publications mail agreement # 40063862
www.mindentimes.ca
$1.90 (no GST)
Wednesday, January 22, 2025

HIGHLANDS MEDICAL SUPPLIES
Meeting your Home Health Care Needs
13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton
705•457•9355
HIGHLANDSMEDICALSUPPLIES.COM

Book your 2025 Project with us!
Francis THOMAS CONTRACTING
SERVING HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS
SINCE 1934
CALL US TODAY
705-489-2711
OR VISIT
thomascontracting.ca

Making the most of winter

Friends face-off during their annual broomball tournament in Minden. /photo submitted

Public health unit urges preparedness against extreme cold

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Extreme cold is anticipated to descend on Haliburton County.

It's winter in Canada, so that's to be expected. But it's also important to know how to effectively prepare for the days the windchill feels as if a grudge is being meted out against us all.

Much of southern Ontario got a preview early this week with the proof of Environment and Climate Change Canada's extreme cold warning.

Temperatures reached minus-25 Celsius in Haliburton County at the week's start and was expected to drop lower to a possible minus-30 Celsius.

The Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit offered tips on how to prepare for the bitter winter days still to come.

The risks from exposure to extreme cold, including frostbite, frostnip, and hypothermia, increase at wind chill values below minus-27 Celsius.

see EXTREME page 2

WINTER LIKE IT'S summer
welcome to uncommon™ value
There's no season a Subaru doesn't love.
Maybe it's the confidence of standard symmetrical Full-Time AWD and every model being packed with award-winning safety features, or- actually…that's definitely it. It's why you can drive like it's summer, anytime. Get out and winter with uncommon value.
SUBARU
MINDEN SUBARU
13061 Hwy 35, Minden,
705-286-6126

Minden Rotary gives $10,000 to food centre

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

Minden Rotary dropped off a cheque for $10,000 last week to the Minden Community Food Centre. The service group recognized the increased need for the centre in the community, and focused their efforts on helping out. /photo submitted

It was a big day for Minden Rotary and the Minden Community Food Centre.

A big day, with a big cheque.

Following their regular meeting last week, Minden Rotary presented the food centre with a cheque for $10,000. "Many thanks to all our supporters who helped make this happen," reads a Facebook post, done by Minden Rotary, "you know who you are."

Following the cheque presentation, Minden Rotary treasurer Dave Woodcroft took some time to chat. "I think a lot of people really gave this year," he reflected. "We thought about what we hadn't spent, and we decided to give it all to the food bank, because they really need it."

It's no secret that the need for nourishment from the food centre is on the rise. Currently, the facility supplies over 255 households with food across the county, and that number is steadily increasing.

In 2023, they helped 3060 individuals, with 262 using it on a monthly basis, and 1170 households served.

Minden Rotary saw this increase in need as an opportunity to help out. Now comprised of 18 individuals from around the Minden region, the service club dedicated itself to offering fundraising initiatives throughout the year, including the summer's Rotary Fest and golf tournament, the Rotary Gala - which always falls the first weekend of June - online and in-person auctions, and partnerships with organizations like Fieldings to offer wine purchases to raise funds.

While Woodcroft and Minden Rotary do their best to tend to the many needs of our community and beyond, they made a unanimous decision to focus on food security this year. "It's a priority for us," he said. "And it's absolutely a priority for our community, so we hope we can alleviate some of the pain around not having enough."

Extreme weather slated for the coming week

from page 1

"As the impacts of climate change become increasingly evident, extreme cold conditions will become more frequent and intense, which pose significant health risks that require proactive measures," according to a health unit press release.

"Cold-related illnesses can develop rapidly and can cause long-term effects. The most dangerous illnesses include hypothermia and frostbite, which can be treated upon early symptoms."

Seek medical attention immediately if you or someone around you experiences symptoms of hypothermia or severe frostbite.

Hypothermia develops in three stages beginning with shivering, numb hands, rapid and shallow breathing, tiredness and nausea. If the body continues to cool, hypothermia will progress to include strong shivering, slow movements, pale or blue skin, and in some cases death.

Frostbite typically appears on hands, ears, nose and feet. Mild frostbite or frostnip makes skin appear yellowish or white, but it still soft to touch, and should be warmed as soon as possible to prevent worsening. Severe frostbite causes nerve damage, discoloured and dark skin, and will eventually result in blisters and loss of feeling at the affected area. Risk of infection increases at this point which can result in loss of limbs.

Everyone's health can be affected by extreme cold and cold weather conditions. However, the health unit warns that some people are at a higher risk of experiencing cold-related health impacts, including infants and children, older adults, people with pre-existing medical conditions and people taking certain medications, people who lack adequate shelter or who are unhoused, newcomers to Canada, outdoor workers, and sports/outdoor enthusiasts.

Despite frigid temperatures, the Gull River continues to flow through the heart of downtown Minden. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

"It is so important for residents, especially those who are at a higher risk, to prepare for extreme cold temperatures and winter storms that we typically experience in our region," said Bernie Mayer, the unit's Environmental Health manager.

"By understanding the dangers, taking preventative measures, and supporting our friends, family and neighbours, we can minimize health risks and better prepare for extreme weather conditions."

The public health unit emphasizes that cold-related illnesses are preventable, and it is most important to stay warm and avoid direct exposure during extreme cold conditions.

Dress in layers and wear appropriate outdoor clothing.

Prepare your home for the winter. Make sure your heating system works efficiently and seal all cracks and drafts near windows and doors to keep the heat in. Ensure you have any supplies required to maintain your primary heat source.

Consider your own personal health risks. Talk to your health care provider about your personal risks to cold weather, and if you have health problems such as a heart condition you may want to avoid strenuous activities like shoveling snow.

Know the weather conditions. Check local weather forecasts and alerts so you can prepare for travel conditions and adjust outdoor plans when a special weather statement is issued.

Prepare an emergency kit for your home and vehicle that will hold you for 72 hours.

"When temperatures drop and extreme weather conditions occur, it is essential to be prepared for extreme cold conditions and winter storms to protect yourself and loved ones," Mayer said

MH taxes may increase by 7%; budget not yet finalized

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

The most recent draft of this year's Minden Hills capital and operating budget proposes an almost seven per cent spending increase over last year.

The residential tax levy impact on every $100,000 of assessed property value would be $29.32 if the most recent budget had been adopted by council.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario government postponed the 2020 municipal property assessment update. Property assessments in Ontario continue to be based on a 2016 valuation. And that puts municipalities in a bind, particularly when it comes to mapping out revenues to cover necessary expenditures.

An outdated valuation of properties, combined with increasing market values, has created growing disparity between the assessed value of a property and its market value.

The typical single-family home in Minden Hills has an assessed value of $223,000. This property will see a $65.39 increase on their municipal tax bill for 2025.

The typical seasonal recreational dwelling has an assessed value of $316,000. This property will have a $92.65 increase in taxes over last year.

Wendelin Lonergan, the township's finance director, said during council's Jan. 16 meeting that staff has taken feedback already offered in the budget process and are working through them.

"This is a moving process and we'll be taking everything and compiling everything and refining further for the Feb. 4 meeting," she said.

The 2025 municipal operating and capital budget is to be finalized in February.

As it is so far, the spending plan has a proposed municipal service tax increase of about four per cent. That includes 1.5 per cent for capital investment and about one per cent for the OPP service.

Lonergan said the annual cost of policing has increased over 2024 costs by $424,665 to $2,265,991. The township received notice from the Office of Solicitor

General in November that Minden Hills will get $324,509 to lessen the impact of the increase in OPP costs for 2025.

That lowers the tab to $1,941,482 for 2025, which is an overall increase of $100,156 or an about one per cent tax levy increase. "It is not known at this time what the 2026 impact will be for OPP rate increases," according to Lonergan's most recent draft of the proposed budget. "It would be proactive to ensure the Policing Reserve is increased for rate stability. Once the 2024 audit is complete, staff will present a report to address this concern."

Among capital projects this year is work on the curling rink's roof.

The roof and insulation are substandard as per an engineering report completed in 2024. Based on that engineering report, staff applied for a provincial grant that may cover either half the costs or as much as 70 per cent of the $515,000 price tag.

If the grant is not successful a review will need to be done to determine how the full $515,000 will be funded.

"If we are not successful at receiving the grant this year, would you want to continue with doing that roof this year if we had to pay 100 per cent of the cost?" Lonergan said. "It's in the budget, but it's factored in to come from reserves for our portion is we're successful in the grant."

Word about the grant may come by the end of February, she said.

"Do we have a choice on deferring this?" Mayor Bob Carter said. "What's the status of the roof? We saw what happens to delayed roofs in this building."

Lonergan said she could return to council with some recommendations from which council could decide a course of action.

"Council would then decide if you wanted to proceed or potentially wait for another grant or do something like debt," she said. "All those different options with financing."

"This is a substantial project," Councillor Tammy McKelvey said and added that the township's portion of the bill is shown to come from reserve funds.

"I would like to suggest … that we consider putting an actual levy towards this," McKelvey said.

> "This is a moving process and we'll be taking everything and compiling everything and refining further"
>
> – WENDELIN LONERGAN, FINANCE DIRECTOR, MINDEN HILLS

"I'm waiting to get through the whole budget and then find out what our surplus is," Carter said. "Then determine what it is that we need to borrow for what projects we need to do."

The Feb. 4 meeting will provide more of those details.

"It's a bit premature to add a specific project," Carter said. "We have to look at all of the projects together and find out what our borrowing needs to be, what has to come from reserves, what levies we need to put in place."

Elliot Falls repairs progressing well

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Times Staff

In November of 2024, Parks Canada started repairs on the Elliot Falls Dam near Norland.

The Elliot Falls waterpower generating facility was built around 1904 for the Raven Lake Portland Cement Company. The power generating facility was operated until 1928. After ceasing operations and being sold to the Ministry of Natural Resources, the site was later leased to Elliot Falls Power Corporation. Bracebridge Generation gained control of the station in 2016.

In February of 2023, a bulletin was posted indicating that barricades and fencing would be installed, and signage would be posted to direct people away from the area.

"These works are part of an ongoing commitment to maintain the safety and functionality of critical water management infrastructure across the Trent-Severn Waterway system," writes a press release from the City of Kawartha Lakes on Nov. 26, 2024. "An inspection of the dam has confirmed deterioration of the concrete structure. While the dam poses no immediate danger, the project will involve a pier patching program to ensure the dam's continued operability and repairs to the channels that hold the stop logs in place. No changes to current water management practices are required to complete this work."

"The Elliott Falls Dam exhibited deterioration in several areas, most notably in the piers on Spillway 3 and the east wingwall," said Karen Feley, public relations and communications officer for Parks Canada. "The easternmost pier has suffered concrete loss, which complicates the operation of Weir 3 (the eastern spillway)."

Feley says that the winter season presents unique challenges, including reduced work output due to cold temperatures and shorter daylight hours, which limit the feasibility of extended workdays.

Once the repairs are complete, there are no plans to open the facility to the public.

The repairs are progressing as scheduled and are expected to be completed in February of this year.

www.mindenhills.ca — In Case of Emergency Dial 911 / After-Hours Municipal Emergency Dial 1-866-856-3247

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS
IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING - PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE TOWNSHIP'S FEES AND CHARGES BY-LAW

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2025 during its Regular Council Meeting regarding Proposed changes to the Township's Fees and Charges By-law.
Proposed changes are included in the following Schedules:

- Schedule A Building – simplified wording for building permit minimum fee
- Schedule B Administration
- Schedule C Fire
- Schedule D Cultural Centre Programs and Facilities
- Schedule F Planning Department Fees
- Schedule H Community Services Programs & Facilities
- Schedule I Water, Sewer, and Landfill

Members of the public wishing to **participate may attend in-person or join electronically.** Registration is required for electronic participants at admin@mindenhills.ca.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- **January 30 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **February 4 - Special Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal.

WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th overnight parking is illegal from midnight to 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in areas that interferes with snow removal will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

SG NESBITT MEMORIAL ARENA

- Sign up for upcoming fitness classes starting in February. More information on classes can be found online at www.mindenhills.ca/recreation.
- Snowshoe walk drop-in program on Tuesdays from 1:00pm-4:00pm. Stop by the Administration desk to register each week.

HELP SHAPE OUR NEW COMMUNITY PRIORITY PLAN

TWO WAYS YOU CAN PROVIDE INPUT AND HELP SHAPE OUR COMMUNITY PRIORITY PLAN - SURVEY AND TOWN HALL SESSIONS

1. Complete the **online survey** by February 2, 2025
Scan the QR code or visit
www.surveymonkey.com/r/MindenHillsSurvey

2. Participate in a **Town Hall Session**
- **Wednesday, January 29th at 6:30 PM**
In-Person (SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena - Community Rooms 1 & 2, 55 Parkside St.)
- **Thursday, January 30 @ 7 PM online**
Email lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register

TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 705-286-1260 Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260 Fax 705-286-4917 Township.Minden.Hills Minden Hills@twpmindenhills

RIVERVIEW
FURNITURE & FLOORING

Hours
Mon. to Sat.
9 am - 5pm

"This Week's Special"

Come Visit
Riverview's
All Canadian Made
Leather Gallery

FLOORING
Think Riverview
VISIT OUR 1000 SQ FT SHOWROOM
dedicated to all types of flooring and carpet available by 10 different suppliers
which gives you an amazing selection to choose from all at great pricing!
Be Sure To Follow Us Online!

705-286-3167 • 94 Bobcaygeon Rd • DOWNTOWN MINDEN
info@riverview-furniture.com • www.riverview-furniture.com

The rapid change in climate over recent years has forced outdoor tour operators to shift gears moving forward, as the promise of snow is no longer a guarantee. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Thinking outside the snow globe for winter tourism

by **EMILY STONEHOUSE**
Editor

It's no secret that the security of winters is unstable.

Climate change is impacting our snowy certainty with a vengeance, and as a result, many of our local businesses have thrown in the towel over the colder months.

"There's a seasonality to our businesses," said Angelica Ingram, the tourism manager for the County of Haliburton. "Even if it's a good winter, costs are higher, utilities are more expensive. So it becomes a business decision."

"I understand why they're doing it," echoed Scott Ovell, the director of economic development and tourism for the county, "we haven't done a deep dive on it yet, but we know last winter was bad."

Ovell and Ingram intend to roll out a business retention and expansion strategy in the coming year, and instead of working alongside a consultant to crunch the numbers, they intend to get it straight from the source. "We want to talk to businesses and do some one-on-one interviews," said Ovell. "I am curious to hear what we will get from that."

Ovell noted that it wasn't solely the poor winter weather that impacted the business economy last year, rather, it was "a lot of separate factors coming together," one of which was the residual effects of the COVID-19 pandemic-driven closures.

"We are creating things now that are not weather dependent," said Ingram.

One such thing is the recently announced February Folk Fest, taking place across the county.

The newly cultivated event is "a celebration of live music and community spirit taking place across the Haliburton Highlands this February," according to an email sent out to community tourism stakeholders.

"The genesis of [the festival] was from a conversation we had with council last winter," recalled Ovell. "Council gives us the flexibility to be creative."

While the county holds the reigns for the annual Hike Haliburton Festival - which has both an early fall and a mid-winter edition - Ovell is cognizant of the fact that the festival takes place over a single weekend each time, And again, if the weather is lousy, the entirety of the event is in jeopardy. "I think we can find ways to provide alternative activities," he said. "It is our job to focus on getting as many people here as we can."

Over the years, there have been some misconceptions about community-driven events, with the onus of responsibility being passed between the current tiered political system in place. Hike Haliburton currently stands as the county's only signature event, therefore holding a permanent place in budget deliberations, but Ovell shared that there is some wiggle room for new initiatives within the destination marketing plan. Sometimes that may come in the form of financial support, and other times, it could be a formalized partnership put in place. "It is our job to work within the townships, and explore those new kinds of concepts," he noted.

For the upcoming February Folk Fest, the county is offering a small remuneration to kickstart the initiative amongst local venues. "We are all about partnerships," noted Ingram. "We're more than a marketing agency. And if we don't have the capacity to support someone, we will probably know someone who can."

Ingram said that she is optimistic about the coming year, with a series of new ideas in the works, and efforts towards ongoing partnerships with organizations like the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Haliburton County Development Corporation. "We're here to support every business in town," she noted, "and if people need help, I always say that you can start with us."

The county is currently seeking venues to host live music for February Folk Fest. For more information on how to get involved, contact ecasper@haliburtoncounty.ca.

While icy temperatures have helped this past week with outdoor sports like ice climbing, the County of Haliburton is mindful when it comes to developing programs set indoors. /TIM YANO staff photographer

CANOE 100.9 FM

Canoe FM Begins On-Air Testing on 97.1 FM in Minden!

Canoe FM is excited to announce that **Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)** has authorized us to begin on-air testing of the permanent transmitting facilities at our repeater station, **CKHA-FM-1**, broadcasting on **97.1 FM** out of **Minden, Ontario.**

Testing will begin on **December 17, 2024**, and will conclude no later than **January 28, 2025**.

We value your feedback during this testing period. If you have any ***comments or concerns***, please reach out to us by:
Email: manager@canoefm.com
Phone: 705-457-1009

After the testing has been approved 97.1 Minden & 100.9 Haliburton will be permanent frequencies in our County. Thank you for your support as we improve Canoe FM's reach to serve more of our amazing community!

Canoe FM – Community Radio - The Voice of the Haliburton Highlands.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

2	7	5	4	9	3	1	8	6
1	4	6	2	8	7	9	5	3
8	3	9	5	1	6	2	7	4
9	5	4	7	6	1	8	3	2
6	8	3	9	5	2	7	4	1
7	1	2	8	3	4	6	9	5
5	2	8	1	4	9	3	6	7
4	6	7	3	2	8	5	1	9
3	9	1	6	7	5	4	2	8

Three beers for Boshkung

Boshkung Brewing Co. of Minden recently collected three major honours at the Ontario Brewing Awards, held at Niagara Brewing College. "With over 400 breweries across Ontario, it's always good for a small town like ours to win," said Mathew Renda, the owner of the establishment. The judges are put through a blind taste test for each category. "It's pretty intense," said Renda.

With IPA's being one of the biggest categories, Renda and his team were surprised to scoop a silver second place. The brewery also earned a silver for their well-known Kungaroo brew, as well as a bronze for their amber ale, Black Rock. The brewery took to Instagram shortly after the win, sharing their successes with the community. “A huge thank you to our amazing team, loyal supporters, and everyone who makes moments like this possible,” reads the post. "For me, it's just so cool to get the Minden name out there," said Renda. "We're a small town with a small brewery, and it feels good to be recognized."

/EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

The Ultimate in Professional and Personalized Service

Terry Carr
Sales Representative
705.935.1011
Terry@MovingTheHighlands.com
MovingTheHighlands.com

Moving the Highlands
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH
Brokerage - independently owned + operated
Box 1010, 12621 Hwy 35
Minden, ON K0M 2K0

Lisa Mercer Broker
Cell 705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

Don’t keep me a secret!

MOLLY’S MARKET
Molly’s has reopened with a new look and the same great dedication to quality. She is making it easier for the next owner! Call for the details.

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
Cell 705-457-8511
www.lyndalitwin.ca
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH
Brokerage - Independently Owned + Operated

12621 Highway 35, Minden
beside Subway Restaurant

follow us!

REALTOR®
MLS MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE®

*Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

In Other Words

Columns and Letters to the Editor

The Times

2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
Published by White Pine Media Corp

DAVID ZILSTRA
Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON,
General Manager and Sales
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

EMILY STONEHOUSE,
Managing Editor
emily@haliburtonpress.com

JAMES MATTHEWS, Reporter
james@haliburtonpress.com

THOMAS SMITH, Reporter
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

REED SACHAROFF
Production

STACEY POTALIVO
Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

INSIDE SALES
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

CIRCULATION
subscriptions@haliburtonpress.com

News Media Canada / Médias d'Info Canada
CMCA AUDITED

Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

Letters to the Editor must be signed and include phone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Email must include name and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Print Subscriptions 1 yr/ $51 (taxes included). Published each Wednesday by White Pine Media
To Subscribe to the Print or Digital edition, email subscriptions@haliburtonpress.com or call (705) 286-1288.

A village

HELLO, MINDEN.

It's nice to be back.

If you're a loyal reader, you've likely seen my name on a few stories here and there as I have eased back into the writing world. I was able to step back into the role of editor for the *Echo* and *County Life* this past fall, but have needed to balance my personal life with a soon to be one-year-old (how did that happen?!) at home.

While I've found my footing alongside my now-toddling son, Thomas Smith has held down the fort. He immersed himself in our community, listened to the highs and lows of our little town, and dedicated the past year to sharing our stories for all to read.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

Thankfully, Thomas has agreed to stay on as a reporter for our papers, and we are all the better for it.

Because if this past year has taught me anything, it's that we are nothing without community support.

I always heard the phrase "it takes a village" applied to parenthood. I had assumed I could make it work, though. I didn't need a village. I (oh so high and mighty) had read the parenting books. I had followed the blog pages. I had cared for my friends' young ones on a regular basis. I would be fine on my own.

I could not have been more wrong.

I had my baby boy in March of last year. I remember thinking that the timing would be perfect; I'd rest in bed while the last wisps of winter gave way to spring, then I would be right as rain with my new baby in tow, able to take on the world and any obstacle that came my way.

Again, I could not have been more wrong.

Motherhood broke me and rebuilt me in ways I never could have imagined; a life of constant juxtapositions clashing and crashing each and every day. A draining, unconditional love that surges through you with such a power that it hurts.

Joy and loneliness, gratitude and fear, a craving for the past and a hunger for the future, highs and lows, ups and downs.

I needed my village.

And this village came in many forms. It looked like my partner showing up in any way he could. My family arriving at the drop of a hat. My co-workers stepping in to pick up the many balls I had dropped when trying to juggle it all. My hometown sharing in my celebration when I had announced he was here. He was finally here. My want, my dream, my wish, he was here.

We don't always have what it takes to go through it alone.

And thankfully, in a small town, we never have to.

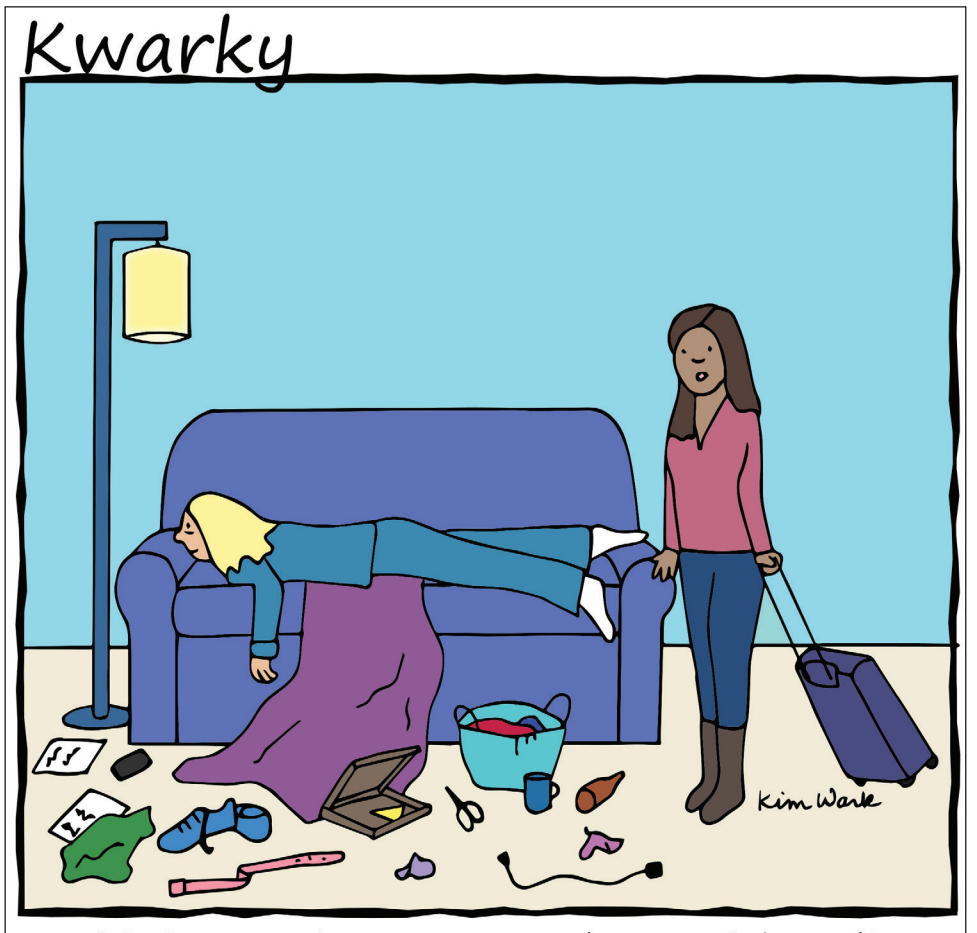
Because it takes a village. To raise a child. To make a newspaper. To offer money for those in need. To celebrate successes as a team. To beautify a downtown core. To make change happen. To stand up for what is right. To do anything that's truly worth doing.

It takes a village.

And I am thrilled to be back in this one.

So hello, Minden.

It's nice to be back.



"This is not what you posted on social media."

Long underwear redux

CANADIANS, FROM coast to coast to coast, have many differences. But the one thing we have in common is our long johns.

They are the one garment that bind us – unless we take the time to get a pair that fits. Every Canadian I know, owns a pair too. Mine are near and dear to my heart. But only when I hike them up.

Like most folks, I only don mine on special occasions, when I am going ice fishing in frigid temperatures, for instance. Or when forced to wear a kilt.

Some nitpickers will say that, technically, mine do not even qualify as "long" underwear. I am, after all, 5-foot-3 with a 26-inch inseam. This means that, God forbid, should they got stolen, they would be listed as medium underwear in the police report and insurance claims. The up side of this is that I could easily pick the thief out of a police line up.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

"That's him," I'd say, "the one with the exposed shins."

I doubt long underwear is a uniquely Canadian thing, but I'd bet no one has more experience with them than the average Canuck. Wearing your first set is almost a rite of passage.

So, is long underwear part of our national identity? I say yes: we should have depicted a pair on our flag, right alongside a plaid canoe filled with poutine and hockey sticks. Admittedly, graphic design was never my strong suit – but still.

What I do know is that long underwear is the Canadian version of a security blanket, in that they provide us with more psychological than physical comfort and often need a good washing. Sure, they add one more meager layer to our winter armour, but when the temperatures are cold enough to freeze tongues to metal poles, does this really makes a difference?

Having said that, there's no denying they help us stay warm in unanticipated ways.

I know I don't have to describe the frenetic winter dance that occurs when the only obstacle between you and answering nature's call is an obstinate pair of long underwear. I have a theory that this is how Canadian hockey players first perfected the art of quickly throwing down gloves.

Anyone north of the 49th parallel knows this experience all too well. The good news is this dance, ultimately creates almost enough friction and warmth to set brittle winter leg hair on fire – but only if you are lucky.

Despite their shortcomings, tomorrow I'll be putting on my long underwear and setting out onto a frozen lake to stand over a six-inch diameter hole I drilled in the ice. Then, I will lower a lure down and mindlessly jig it for hours on end or until two merciful lake trout decide it's time to try and pull me through the ice. And, yes, the long johns I will be wearing under my snow suit will be my last line of defence against a bitter north wind, frigid temperatures, and temporary infertility.

I'm not sure if John, the presumably tall inventor these garments were named after, knew how important his creation would be to northern outdoorsmen and women, but I kind of hope he went to meet his maker content in the knowledge that he created a good thing – though clearly not a perfect one.

A perfect set would be easier to escape from when nature called.

InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Operate your drones safely

A COMBINATION OF strong Santa Ana winds and prolonged drought conditions exacerbated by climate change has resulted in some of the most destructive wildfires in Los Angeles history. If you've been keeping track of the fires on social media, you may have seen footage of two bright yellow airplanes skimming across Santa Monica Bay and taking off, heading toward the thousands of hectares burning in the Pacific Palisades.

The footage, captured by reporter Cristen Drummond, shows two water bombers from Quebec – the Canadair CL-415 Super Scooper. These aircraft are sent to the United States to aid in firefighting efforts during their wildfire season as part of a long-standing mutual aid relationship which also includes Mexico, Australia, and New Zealand among other countries.

The Super Scooper is a pretty amazing piece of technology. First manufactured in 1993 as a replacement for the older CL-215 Scooper, the design is very much like a boat with wings. It can land on a body of water that is as little as 1.3 kilometres long, and within 12 seconds scoop 1,350 gallons of water. The plane can make several trips carrying water to drop on a fire, and has become an important resource for fighting wildfires worldwide paired with fire fighters on the ground and other firefighting aircraft.

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING

Humans and Technology

Unfortunately, not long after Drummond filmed those Super Scoopers from the beach on Santa Monica Bay, one of the planes hit a civilian drone which punched a fist-sized hole in the leading edge of the wing. Thankfully, no one was injured and the plane landed safely. However, the incident also grounded an important tool being used to help in a dangerous emergency where people have died and homes have been destroyed.

Drones, also known as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) or Remote Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) are regulated in the United States by the FAA, and Transport Canada in Canada. Drones can be used for a variety of tasks, photography and video being some of the more common civilian uses.

It is important to know the regulations for using drones in the jurisdiction you are planning on flying in. In Canada, if your drone's take-off weight is between 250 grams and 25 kilograms (including all attachments, battery, payload, etc.), you need to register your drone with Transport Canada and get certified as a drone pilot. You also need to determine if the kind of operations you'll be performing with your drone are basic or advanced and determine whether your drone meets the safety standards for those activities.

If your drone's take-off weight is under 250 grams, then it is considered a "micro-drone." Microdrones are relatively easy to purchase, costing anywhere from under $100 to just over $1,000 depending on what features you are looking for. You do not require a license to pilot a microdrone, and you do not need to register your micro-drone. You still need to comply with applicable laws (including relevant sections of the Criminal Code, provincial trespass laws, and laws respecting privacy), as well as following the rules in the Canadian Aviation Regulations.

Rules in Canada for flying drones under 250 grams include:

- Surveying the area you will be flying in for obstacles or other hazards.
- Flying drones safely – don't endanger people or other aircraft.
- Never flying in restricted airspace or areas where an emergency is taking place, like a forest fire.
- Avoiding advertised events and airports.
- Ensuring your drone remains under 400 feet.
- Ensuring you can see your drone at all times.

Other things to consider when you are flying a drone are ensuring you are minimizing disturbances to humans and wildlife, as well as the environment. Losing your drone in a lake, for instance, could mean that damaging chemicals from the battery, plastics, and circuits leach into that ecosystem if your drone is not recovered. Also, drones are not quiet pieces of equipment and can disturb birds and other animals in sensitive habitats.

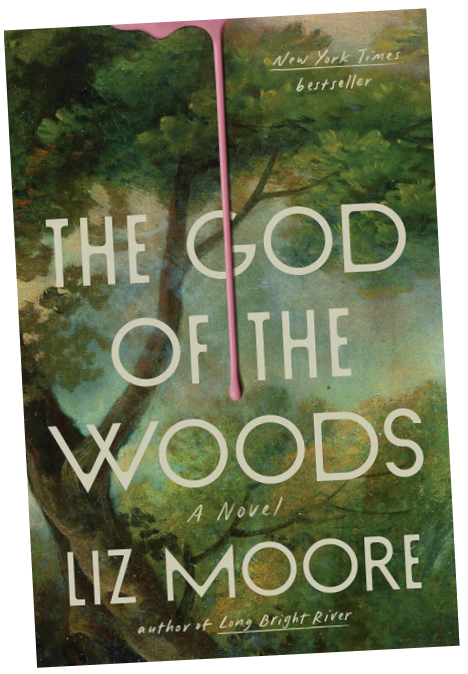
Drones used by firefighting professionals are playing an increasing role in dealing with wildfires. Trained pilots can fly larger drones equipped with cameras and sensors that can get a bird's eye view of a fire, as well as detect spot fires even in thick smoke. This information is relayed to crews on the ground so that they can move where they are needed, as well as out of harm's way if needed.

When an emergency is happening, it's important to not become part of the problem. The US Forest Service has been reminding people in the fire affected areas, "If you fly, we can't." Operating a drone around an emergency area might satisfy your curiosity about what's going on, but it can put emergency personnel and others in more danger. If you have a drone, be sure that you are operating it safely.

Minden Memories

This Kodachrome slide captures a ceremony during a 1950s hockey game at the Minden arena, featuring a match between Minden and a team from Lindsay. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week



Early morning, August 1975: a camp counselor discovers an empty bunk. Its occupant, Barbara Van Laar, has gone missing. Barbara isn't just any thirteen-year-old: she's the daughter of the family that owns the summer camp and employs most of the region's residents. And this isn't the first time a Van Laar child has disappeared. Barbara's older brother similarly vanished fourteen years ago, never to be found.

As a panicked search begins, a thrilling drama unfolds. Chasing down the layered secrets of the Van Laar family and the blue-collar community working in its shadow, Moore's multi-threaded story invites readers into a rich and gripping dynasty of secrets and second chances.

The God of the Woods by Liz Moore is available to borrow as a book or book club set from the Haliburton County Public Library.

July 2024 Year in Review

Thousands of people came to Minden on Canada Day. The Kids Fishing Debry drew 459 participants. Food vendors had lines wrapping around the block. Every single child that entered the fishing derby received a prize. /FILE

Members of Algonquin Highlands council, along with Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Jamie Schmale, cut the ribbon to officially re-open the Dorset Recreation Centre. Residents got to tour the refurbished facility in an event that also included live music, a catered lunch, children's entertainment and the official dedication of Tapscott-Lopes Park on Main Street. /FILE

AH council decides against deepening boat launch

Algonquin Highlands investigated the possibility of deepening the Little Boshkung Lake boat launch after residents requested that the launch be deepened. Tulloch, the consultants who visited the launch, tallied a $668,750 bill for the total estimated project cost. The launch was found to be mostly sand, a difficult thing to dig out. "Algonquin Highlands, I think, is doing its responsibility in maintaining the launch that we have," said Councillor Sabrina Richards. "This is our problem in the sense that our residents are looking for it, but we didn't create this problem. It's a private landowner that has created this problem."

Work OKed for Minden Hills comms tower

Public consultation requirements before a new communications tower can be erected in Minden Hills were met. The wireless communication tower will be built near Bob's Lake.

It's part of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network Cell-Gap Project and will improvement service for residents and businesses in the area. The EORN Cell-Gap Project is designed to improve cell coverage across the area where people live, work and travel by closing gaps coverage gaps in wireless communications infrastructure. It will increase network capacity and allow future development and the introduction of new technology over time.

Dorset Recreation Centre to host grand re-opening

The Dorset Recreation Centre reopened with a public celebration on July 27. The Dorset Recreation Centre also now houses the Dorset branch of the Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) in the lower level. The day also included the official opening ceremony of Tapscott Lopes Park, previously known as the Dorset Pavilion and Community Park, on Main Street.

Carnarvon sees first culvert of its kind in Ontario

"This in particular was the first of its kind in Ontario. It has been used in other countries and other provinces, but it is the first of its kind in Ontario," said Keith Thomas, owner of Francis Thomas Contracting. "The Ministry of Transportation was quite interested in it as a test, so they started putting the process together a few years ago. It has taken that long to get boots on the ground." "For this culvert, the valleys or gorges that the roads were built through are such high gorges and long spreads that they'd have to build a road beside the existing road," said Thomas. The process would involve digging the road out, taking the culvert out, and building a detour. The cost of installing the culvert using this method is much quicker and cost effective, said Thomas. "It doesn't matter if it is bedrock or rock fill, it will drill right through it."

The Paranormal Seekers find activity at Dominion Hotel

The Paranormal Seekers investigated the Dominion Hotel for paranormal activity. Strange activity occurred such as their EMF reader going off the charts in a bathtub. "We have things like people walking or people complaining that there was a party upstairs, but they were on the top floor. So that is kind of weird," said owner Shawn Chamberlin with a laugh. "They were really really transparent with everything going on," said Shawn Chamberlin. "We were welcomed to watch or even to participate if we wanted."

The Minden Minor Baseball League had a great summer, drawing kids from all over the county to participate in the sport. /FILE

Since 1983
WEST GUILFORD
Shopping Centre
Specializing in Fresh Meat & Custom Cutting
705-754-2162
www.wgsc.ca
1116 Kennisis Lake Rd., West Guilford

Since 1982
Walker's
HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS
Full-Service HVAC Repair, Maintenance & Installations
705-457-2375
www.walkershvac.com
YORK CERTIFIED COMFORT EXPERT
Kelly's Propane
NAPOLEON

Since 1984
Haliburton County Home Builders Association
G.J. BURTCH CONSTRUCTION
ENTERPRISES LTD
Since 1984
CUSTOM HOMES- COTTAGE- INTERIORS
(705)457-3837
info@gjburtch.com

August 2024 Year in Review

Burlesque Ball sashays into Haliburton

The Minden Pride committee discussed their plans for the 2024 Burlesque Ball held on Friday, August 23. The event was held at Pinestone Resort and was the third ever Burlesque Ball. The theme of the ball was 'deco-dence'. "That is the tagline we have added to it. We are trying to capture the 1920s or 1930s energy," said Collin Burke, artistic director on the board committee of the Burlesque Ball.

Minden Hills pays $11K for removal of trees

A tree was removed on the Gull River in Minden. The tree blocked a portion of the river for recreation and tourism purposes.$440,296 was paid out in invoices, bringing concerns from the councillors where the money was going, as some services were not tendered. "I think we need a policy going forward on whether we're going to do these trees in front of private property," said Coun. Tammy McKelvey. "That's what this was. This wasn't our shoreline allowance along the river walk."

Auntie Plums drags literacy into young minds

The HCPL was excited to announce that Auntie Plum, a locally based drag queen would be presenting drag storytime at the Minden Hills branch. "It is fundamental learning," said Hillary Montgomery, programming and outreach coordinator for HCPL. "It promotes literacy. Just like any storytime." "We have great attendance of all ages and we are lucky we have Minden Pride in our community."

Canada 911 Ride rumbles through Minden

On Friday, Aug. 23 the Canada 911 Ontario Ride thundered through the streets of Minden. Around 170 riders were present at the Petro-Canada in Minden. Since its inception the Canada 911 Ride has presented over $1,000,000 to support Families of Fallen Emergency Service Workers, Victims of Crime, and the Mikey Network.

The Burlesque Ball capped off a successful Minden Pride week, and was a fun evening of drinks, music, and dancing. /FILE

Left, the Haliburton Highlanders Pipes and Drums Band kicked off the annual Kinmount Fair over the August Long Weekend. The weekend-long event included a parade, fair festivities and rides, and a selection of live music. /FILE

Below, the Tour de Forest allowed locals and visitors from inside the county and out, to explore the many artistic offerings of the community. Pictured, woodpeckers from Glass Eagle Studio in Minden.

Minden Rotary offered their annual Rotary Fest on Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. The event offered fun and games for the whole family, all while raising money for causes in the community. /FILE

Since 1985
TMS SERVICES
A DIVISION OF 926781 ONTARIO LTD
Licensed Septic Service
Excavating • Haulage • Landscaping
705-457-9229 tmsservices@me.com
Haliburton

Since 1989
Darlene REIL
Sales Representative
Cell: 705.854.2055
Darlene@century21granite.com
CENTURY 21
Granite Realty Group Inc.

Since 1989
David A.P. Shapiera
LAWYER
Servicing all of your Real Estate and Legal Needs in Haliburton County
•Sales
•Purchases
•Mortgages & Refinances
•Leases
Trust your Real Estate Needs to someone committed to your interests.
(705) 286-2021
69 Bobcaygeon Road
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
FAX: (705) 286-3930
EMAIL: lawshap@interhop.net

September 2024 Year in Review

MH looks into better ways to shed light on Riverwalk

Vandals damaged the lights along the Riverwalk in Minden, costing taxpayers thousands of dollars. Candace McGuigan, the township's community services director, told council when it met Aug. 29 that work to remove and replace 14 lighting bollards on the Riverwalk damaged by vandals in May will cost $6,400, plus taxes. Coun. Bob Sisson asked if the local OPP had any luck tracking down the culprits. "Is there somebody out there that should be paying for this?" asked Mayor Bob Carter. "The police did do an investigation, but there was no witnesses," said McGuigan.

Environmental concern draws objection to hobby farm

A proposed hobby farm in Algonquin Highlands has drawn contestation from neighbours. "I planned on starting a business at this property and wanted to make sure that I did my due diligence," said Tim Kegel in a letter to council and staff. Concerns of contamination to water sources were brought up. "There is no stream or creek that runs through our property," Tim Kegel said. "None. And I'm going to repeat this again so everyone that was lied to and lied on their letters (of opposition) can hear me. There is no stream or creek that runs through our property." Several members of the community have denied these claims and are angered over the proposed rezoning.

Allan Guinan steps down as Chair of Minden Pride

For the past three years, Allan Guinan has been serving as Chair of the Minden Pride Committee."I got involved because I was surprised and delighted to see that a small community like Minden could host such a successful and fun pride festival," said Guinan. "I hold the view that it's crucial for volunteer organizations to continually adapt and embrace new individuals and ideas to pave the path ahead," said Guinan. "The past four years have been bustling as we've expanded our community presence and activities, and I now wish to allocate time to explore additional interests."

Brantley Alcock of Algonquin Highlands smiles as a plane takes off as a part of the Stanhope Fly In; a great opportunity to see the fall colours across the county. /FILE

AH bridges maintain firm footing, say engineers

An assessment of Algonquin Highlands' five bridges and one large culvert concluded that they were in good overall condition. "Overall, all the bridges are in good condition," said Adam Thorn, the township's public works manager, and added that there are some small things to keep an eye on over the next few years. "We'll continue monitoring that. It looks like we have quite a few years left in our bridges."

Janet Trull introduces Bernie Nicholls during a presentation done by Friends of the Library. /FILE

The Haliburton County Huskies kick off a new season with a new team filling their roster. /FILE

Since 1993
21

Greater Haliburton Team
Gloria Carnochan & Breann Budel
Sales Representatives
kennisisoffice@gmail.com
www.kennisisredstone.com
(705) 754-1932

Since 1993
Blair
SAND AND GRAVEL
Fully Licensed and Insured
Commerical & Residential
705-457-1349
BLAIRSANDANDGRAVEL@GMAIL.COM
15527 HWY. 118
HALIBURTON
ONTARIO

Since 1998
CEDAR WINDS
DESIGN ≈ BUILD
705-457-3744
www.TheBetterWayToBuild.com
Call us to begin your design-build journey!

Spectators welcome for annual broomball tournament

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Times Staff

When working for Camp Wanakita, Matt Brown was reintroduced to playing broomball, the classic game played in high schools across the province. As a camp counsellor, Brown learned the game in order to teach campers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic 14 years later, Brown decided that he would utilize the pond on his property to host a broomball tournament for himself and his friends.

Only 10 people attended the first iteration of the tournament, This was due to government restrictions on outside gatherings. In the second year, the tournament grew to 15 people. The year after that, there were 24 people, and this year, six teams have registered with 44 participants.

For Brown's broomball tournament, each team consists of five players with one acting as goalie. Unlike hockey, players do not use skates and must run on the ice to play. Safety equipment such as helmets, elbow pads, and knee pads are highly recommended by Brown. Instead of a hockey stick, players use broken brooms donated by Onondaga Camp to hit the ball into the net. Instead of a typical broomball, Brown uses a miniature soccerball.

Despite being a miniature ball, Brown confirmed that when it hits you in negative temperatures, you can certainly feel it.

"I like to make it as slick as possible," said Brown. "That way, we have an even playing field for all players."

While players will occasionally wipe out on the ice, there have been no major accidents or injuries. Players will sometimes leave the tournament with scrapes and bruises, but nothing serious that lasts longer than a week, says Brown.

Playing the sport of broomball challenges your body while you maintain balance, run with the ball, and aim to hit your ball in the opposing team's net.

With an emphasis on low-budget and reusing materials, Brown is proud to say that the tournament is environmentally friendly and cost efficient, and that anyone is capable of hosting their own broomball tournament.

Participants can win a variety of homemade trophies shown above. /Submitted

"You don't need hundreds or thousands of dollars in hockey equipment to play," said Brown.

Currently, participation in the broomball tournament is by invitation only. With the tournament being hosted on Brown's private pond, there are limitations with only one game being able to play at a time.

All of the teams are named after defunct NHL teams including Hartford Whalers, Atlanta Flames, Quebec Nordiques, Minnesota North Stars, Atlanta Thrashers, and the Colorado Rockies. Every team receives a trophy for participating with some awards including the "Well… You Had Fun!!!" award, the Pringle Participation award, Runner Runner Up, Not Last Award, and the MVPP Mini Broom (Most Valuable Player on Pringle).

This year marks the fourth annual broomball tournament hosted on Brown's property. He is happy to note that the event has grown so much through word of mouth. With the broomball tournament still in its grassroots phase, Brown says that he does have ideas on making it grow. In the future, Brown hopes to find additional ice rink space to allow for more players and broomball games to occur. Currently, the invitational tournament is free, but Brown has tossed around the idea of collecting donations in the future. If donations are collected in the future, Brown says that the money would go towards mental health awareness.

Brown is encouraging everyone to come out and watch the tournament this year. If enough people show up and bring their enthusiasm, it is likely that a love for the sport will spread in the county. Perhaps in the future, the tournament can become a full day event, with multiple broomball games happening simultaneously.

"You gotta make the most of the winter so it's not all dark and dreary," said Brown. With over forty participants including friends, family, and neighbors, this broomball tournament is sure to provide an entertaining evening and showcase local athleticism. Brown also posts on the TikTok account @broomballpringle allowing everyone to keep up-to-date on the latest happenings of broomball in Minden.

The broomball tournament will be held on Pringle Road on Feb. 15, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Follow the provided signs. All are welcome and there is no cost to watch.

We have a plan that's connecting Ontario

We're building new roads, highways and bridges to shorten your daily commute by up to an hour and keep our economy moving forward.

We're also leading the largest public transit expansion in North America to connect growing regions.

All so you can get around faster, safer, easier

See what we're building in your community at **ontario.ca/builds**

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

Ontario

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH
Brokerage, Independently Owned and Operated

Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

Wishing you a New Year full of peace and love
2025
HAPPY NEW YEAR
Rick Forget Broker 705-457-0580 • haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

86 CREGO STREET $425,000

Enjoy small town charm, privacy, peace & quiet awaits you. Situated on almost a full acre lot, this home is well structured. Enjoy both front & back yard decks. Living room with cozy wood stove. Good sized dining area & a productive kitchen space. Beautiful big primary bedroom. This lovely home is just waiting for someone to put a new spin on it. Come and see this gem on it's beautiful treed lot today!

Jackie Hardman
Sales Representative
705-879-8041
jackiedhardman@gmail.com

LOT 7 CON 5, MCLEAN $179,000

- Near Baysville
- 100 acres of pristine woodland
- Great for hunting/camping enthusiasts

Kirby Keks
Sales Representative
705-455-7899
homes@kirbykeks.com
www.kirbykeks.com

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

LET EXPERIENCE MOVE YOU

DEB LAMBE, Sales Representative
705-854-0103 | debra.lambe@gmail.com

*Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

HOUSE IN MINDEN

- 2 + 1 Bedroom Home
- Walkout Basement
- Easy Access to Downtown, Schools, Arena
- Level Lot and Private Back Yard

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

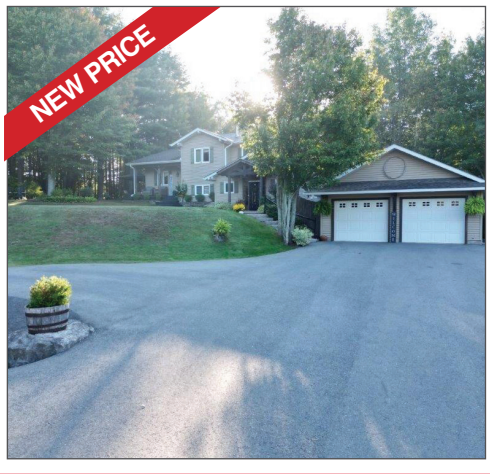
KELLY MERCER

BROKER

Direct: 705.455.7500
Office: 705.286.2911
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca
www.kelly-mercer.ca
12621 ON-35 Unit 1, Minden

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

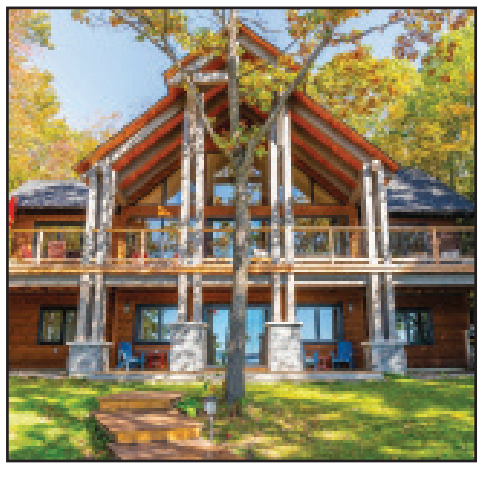
MINDEN EXECUTIVE HOME $739,900



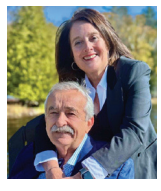
This Home features 4 bed & 2 bath. Private decks. The detached garage adds extra storage. Upgrades include: all lighting & plumbing fixtures & the hot tub; all new hardwood flooring & carpet; shingles replaced on the home & garage & a Napoleon propane stove inserted; boiler system; all window glass replaced; a new well pump & pressure tank; paved driveway, back deck & gazebo; A/C unit heat pump upstairs & downstairs, quartz countertop, farmhouse sink & kitchen appliances.

Lisa Mercer
Broker
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

DRAG LAKE! $2,649,000



- New Confederation Log Home
- 3 Bedrooms Plus Loft and Den
- 3 Bathrooms, Level Lot
- Detached 3 Car Garage
- 112 ft of Sandy Shoreline on Drag Lake



John & Marj Parish
John Parish 705-457-5485
Marj Parish 705-455-2211
Sales Representatives

HALIBURTON
191 Highland St., Suite 201
705-457-1011

MINDEN
12621 Highway 35, Unit 1
705-286-2911

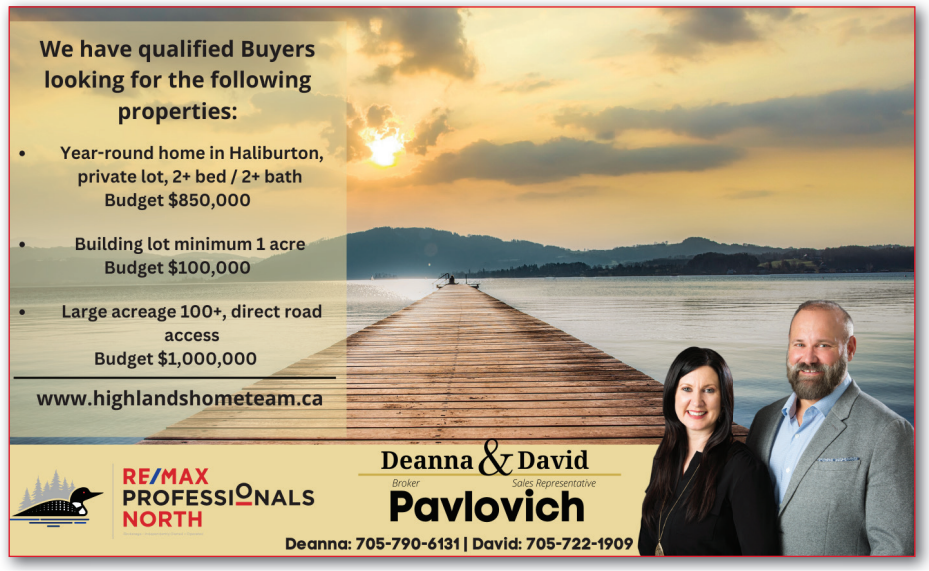
WILBERFORCE
2260 Loop Road
705-448-2222

www.professionalsnorth.com
listings@remaxprofessionals.ca

9 NEWCASTLE ST. UNIT 204

- 854 sq ft total
- Large primary BR W/I closet + W/O balcony
- Den w/closet
- 2 BT (Ensuite + Powder Room)
- 28'x6' covered open balcony
- Underground climate controlled exclusive parking + storage locker
- In-floor Radiant heating

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
info@cherylsmithremax
cherylsmithremax.com


We have qualified Buyers looking for the following properties:
• Year-round home in Haliburton, private lot, 2+ bed / 2+ bath Budget $850,000
• Building lot minimum 1 acre Budget $100,000
• Large acreage 100+, direct road access Budget $1,000,000
www.highlandshometeam.ca
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH
Deanna & David
Broker Sales Representative
Pavlovich
Deanna: 705-790-6131 | David: 705-722-1909

BOBCAYGEON ROAD - ASKING - $109,000

Beautiful building lot located on the corner of Hwy#1118 and bobcaygeon Road - 5.93 acres - 406 ft on hwy - 787 on Twp Rd - picturesque pond with nice building locations - close to 1000's acres of crown land - lot is off grid

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

SPACIOUS WATERFRONT HOME $749,900

- Beach River Home with Boating Access to Boshkung, Little Boshkung and Twelve Mile Lakes
- 3 Bed, 2 Bath, Year Round Home/ Cottage Featuring Many Updates, Including Well, Shingles, Siding, Windows, Kitchen and More.
- Finished Walk Out Basement With In-Law Suite or Rental Potential
- Double Car Garage, Shed, and Spacious Landscaped Yard

Ken Barry
Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
Out Standing In Our Field

96 ACRE HOBBY FARM $1,265,000

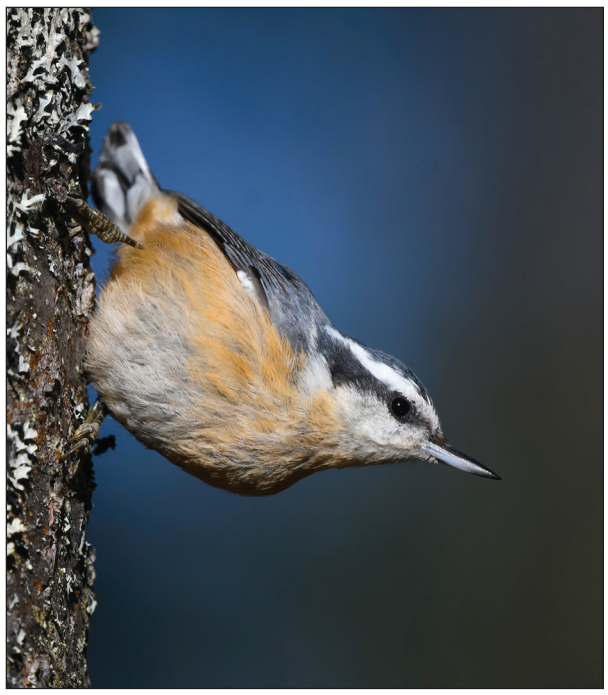
Make your country dreams come true w/ this 96 acre farm! This farm features a custom-built 30x50 winterized shop w 200amp service, a historic barn, a detached garage, & a sugar shack nestled along the tree line. The 1982 farmhouse has 3 bdrms and 1 bathroom & is full of character and charm. Located only 10-15 minutes from Haliburton Village.

Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com

EXPERIENCE, It Matters!

2024 – A quiet winter for birds

by **ED POROPAT**
Special to the Times



A wide variety of reasons could contribute to the decline of common birds, generally seen in Haliburton County this time of year. While access to food and predation may be one reason, climate change likely contributes to the others. /photos by Ed Poropat.

The 58th annual Christmas Bird Count was held on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024. The weather was near perfect, with mostly clear skies, relatively mild temperatures, and light winds. A group of 29 field observers fanned out across the prescribed count circle to record as many birds as possible in a 24-hour period, providing a snapshot in time of winter avian populations in southern Haliburton County. Meanwhile, other participants scanned their feeders for any species that might be visiting their yards for a tasty meal. By the time evening fell, a total of 3234 individuals were tabulated, representing 44 different species. How do these findings compare to other years?

Overall, despite the near average diversity, birds were scarce and not easy to find this winter. This was not a surprise, however. 2023 was a banner year for seed production across the county. In response, many birds remained here to feast on the plentiful cones. Other winter finches invaded the area from surrounding regions to also enjoy the bounty. The exact opposite is true this year. Natural food is scarce in the woods, resulting in mass migrations of some species during the fall. You may have noticed that Blue Jay numbers are significantly lower this winter (thousands migrated south in autumn, mostly due to the lack of acorn production), and Purple Finches are absent (the Balsam Firs produced very few cones in 2024). Even some of our resident Black-capped Chickadees likely moved out of the region, toward areas with better natural food availability.

A closer look at the numbers

Waterfowl were well represented this year. Although the smaller lakes and ponds were frozen, the larger bodies of water such as Gull Lake remained ice-free. Trumpeter Swans continue their slow but steady rise in population with a record high of 20 birds observed this year. Buffleheads were also plentiful, with 32 birds counted in the circle. Overwintering Mallards (397) were in near-record numbers, enjoying the many areas of open water. A closer scan of the flocks might reveal a few different birds enjoying their company. A female Wood Duck was found in Minden, for example, providing only the 7th record in the 58 years of the count. Diving ducks such as Common Goldeneye (50) and Hooded Merganser (63) were relatively common along the Gull River and in the larger lakes. Red-breasted Mergansers (6) were a nice find on the day of the count, as they are uncommon in Haliburton County. A few Common Loons (3) lingered in the region. They will continue south once the larger lakes begin to ice over.

Wild Turkey numbers (195) appear to be healthy, after many years of population growth. Ruffed Grouse (9) were not easy to find, suggesting an ebb in their population cycle. Raptors continue to do fairly well in the area. With the high seed production in 2023, rodents will have had a very successful breeding season, providing predators with a plethora of food. The six Red-tailed Hawks observed was above average in number. Bald Eagles (6) seemed scarce on this day, but they will travel long distances to feast on a deer carcass. They were observed regularly before count day. A Sharp-shinned Hawk in Minden was only the 15th ever seen during the count. Even rarer, an adult Cooper's Hawk was observed hunting pigeons south of Minden on the 13th. A robust rodent population also results in stronger owl numbers. Barred Owls (3) were observed by several participants but a Snowy Owl found along Horseshoe Lake Road during count week was an exceptional sighting.

Although monitoring over several years is required to accurately determine real population declines, some of our resident species appear to be struggling. Black-capped Chickadees (907) have shown below average numbers for the past four years. Some of these fluctuations might be attributable to food availability and movements. Additionally, with the high price of bird seed, fewer people seem to be feeding birds, making them more challenging to detect on count day. This might also account for the apparent reduction in numbers. Time will tell! Downy (30) and Hairy (57) Woodpeckers, however, have plenty of trees to feast on. And yet, their numbers appear to be declining. The cause is unknown at this point. Most Red-breasted Nuthatches (49) migrated south in the fall due to the scarcity of cones so their low numbers this winter are no surprise. White-breasted Nuthatches (80), on the other hand, appear to be holding their own after several years of population decline.

As predicted, most of the winter finches such as crossbills, redpolls, purple finches, and grosbeaks were non-existent or few in number due to the lack of natural food. The only finch to appear in healthy numbers was the American Goldfinch (234).

Rarities and Misses

Because birds are capable of flight, they can show up anywhere, pushed by strong winds or following an inaccurate internal compass. One of the highlights of any Christmas Count is finding some of these stray birds. Although no new species were recorded this year, a few surprise individuals were found. The Common Grackles (3) found at two different feeder locations within the circle were significant finds. They rarely overwinter in Haliburton County. In addition to the aforementioned Wood Duck, two different gull species lingered in the area. Ring-billed Gulls dislike the snow and usually disappear with the first snowfall of the season. Despite this, a single flyover was recorded by one group on count day. Herring Gull is more expected but still quite rare on this date - a single bird was observed. With copious food in the north, Pine Grosbeaks have not ventured south this winter so the single bird flying over Sandy Bay was an excellent record for count day.

Despite more than 91 hours of combined effort, several species were absent on the count this year. Not a single Canada Goose was found on count day, even though it has appeared in eight of the last 10 years. Our only predatory songbird, the Northern Shrike, was missed again in 2024. It has not been recorded in the last three years of the count! And, of course, our boreal species continue to disappear. Canada Jay, Black-backed Woodpecker, and Boreal Chickadee, once expected species in this area, are now almost certainly gone from the circle, likely victims of climate change.

As always, a huge thanks to all the participants for their enthusiasm and commitment. It was tough work out there this year but the effort has provided an accurate picture of what birds we can expect in southern Haliburton County this winter.

Community events sponsored by
Lisa Mercer
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

Don't keep me or your event a secret!
lisa@lisamercer.ca
cell: 705.457.0364
Follow me on Facebook!
Broker
Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Exam Week Drop In at Youth Unlimited
When: Friday, Jan 25 from 11am-3pm - Make your own pizza!
Thursday, Jan. 30, 11am-3pm - Taco Thursday!
Where: Youth Unlimited - 2 Victoria St. Haliburton
Need a place to hang out after exams? Come check out the Bridge Youth Centre. Come for a free lunch and study or just chill, play board and video games and hang out. For more info visit our website http://yfc.ca or email haliburton@youthunlimitedkaw.com.

Youth Unlimited Gym Nights
When: Jan 24 - Sports and 9 Square 6:30 to 9 p.m.,Feb 7 - Bubble Soccer 6:30 to 9 p.m., Mar 7 - Sports and Dodgeball 6:30 to 9 p.m., Apr 4 - Sports and 9 Square 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Highlands Secondary School
For Grades 6 to 12. For more info contact haliburton@youthunlimitedkaw.com.

Minden Ice Races Schedule 2025
When: Jan 25-26, Feb 1-2, Feb. 8-9, Feb. 15-16, Feb. 22-23, and Mar. 1-2
Where: Minden Fairgrounds
The ice races will be located at the Minden Fairgrounds. Spectator admission is free. Races begin at 9 a.m. on Saturdays and 11 a.m. on Sundays. Experience adrenaline-packed racing on a frozen track!

Recurring events

OPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
When: Monday mornings 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room. All welcome

Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

Free Balanced Fitness and Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street
Please join us for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Gull Lake Ice Hut Rentals kicks off ice fishing season

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Times Staff

/Submitted

Dave "The Slayer" Perry first began his lifelong love of ice fishing on Gull Lake 30 years ago.

The idea to start an ice hut rental business began after talking to local game warden Craig Smith. Noticing a demand for huts, Perry saw a prime opportunity to start a rental business on Gull Lake.

For the past 18 years, Perry has been providing ice fishing huts to rent on Gull Lake. The business was first started with four ice huts and has grown to 20 huts and 10 bungalows. All of the rentals were built by Perry.

"Last year's season was horrible," said Perry. For the past two years, Perry has been unable to operate his ice hut rental business out of Gull Lake due to poor conditions. In addition, Perry says that he has not seen any ice huts put on Gull Lake for the past two years either. He has noticed a concerning upwards trend in the winter's temperature over the past several years.

Remaining optimistic, Perry has invested around $100,000 into his ice hut rental business. Expanding from simple ice huts to bungalow accommodations, Perry is hopeful that this year's ice fishing season will be provide thick ice and cold weather that lasts well into February. With a large majority of his customers coming from urban centre such as Toronto, Perry invested in building bungalows to cater to those wanting to escape the 'concrete jungle'.

"I built them over the past three years and I haven't been able to put them out," said Perry.

Last year, Perry had a hut collapse through the ice. Luckily, it was still connected to the trailer at the time and could be pulled out. After collapsing a second time, the hut was promptly removed from the ice. Afterwards, Perry could see that there were two layers of ice sandwiched between a layer of water, causing the instability.

After this event, Perry had his staff pull his remaining huts off of the ice. No rentals were made last year and with having to pay his staff, the business owner lost money last year.

Perry's ice huts are situated near the bay on Gull Lake in Miners' Bay, off of Miners Bay Road. Perry was able to set up his ice huts and bungalows on Jan. 8. On Jan. 16, Perry was excited to share that the bay in which his huts are set up is showing to have around 10 inches of ice on the lake; perfect for ice fishing.

In the early years, whitefish and herring were the most common species to catch in the ice hut on Gull Lake. Nowadays, walleye and pike have exploded in numbers. The population of whitefish and lake herring have been greatly reduced in Gull Lake. Perry says that whenever a lake herring (or cisco, as it is commonly referred to) is caught now, they are very large. Likely, the biggest size of their species are the only ones to survive the predation of the pike and walleye.

Gull Lake Hut Rental offers two, three, four, and six person sized ice bungalows. These ice fishing bungalows provide all the modern amenities any ice fishing enthusiast could ask for including mattresses, a vented furnace, burner stove, lights, and an outhouse. Bungalow rentals also come with a minnow bucket, net, and landing net.

A valid fishing license and personal rods, hooks, line, and sinkers are required.

Perry says that the most common fish species that are caught from Gull Lake are lake trout, walleye, lake herring, whitefish, and burbot.

"I love to feel the fight of the fish," said Perry. His preferred method is 'hand bombing' for fish, a fishing method holding a line in your hand, without a rod and reel.

"When I have a fish, I can tell you what species I have on," said Perry. "I can even tell if I caught the fish by the tail or the fin by the way that it fights."

Perry's reliable setup includes a small minnow, a small hook, and a light jig. His technique and wisdom can only truly be learned in-person.

While he can assure that his huts are on stable ice, Perry advises everyone to consider that no ice is safe ice. Ice thickness can vary across a lake. Often, the centre of a lake will have thinner surface ice than near the edges.

"Know where you are going," said Perry. "Spud your way and make sure you are checking the ice as you go."

Throughout the interview, I can hear Perry's phone ringing off the hook from interested customers. This is highly fortuitous for Perry and his business, as some years the ice fishing season can start as late as February.

For those interested in booking an ice hut or bungalow for their next adventure, you can contact Perry through his website gulllakehutrentals.ca.

Multiple thefts from Minden vehicles; OPP warns

The Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is currently investigating multiple thefts from vehicles in the Township of Minden Hills.

On Jan. 17, the Haliburton OPP responded to numerous calls reporting thefts from vehicles that had occurred overnight. Suspects entered vehicles in the areas of Ritchie Falls Road and Sedgwick Road in the Township of Minden Hills. Suspects entered the vehicles and had stolen numerous items from the unlocked vehicles.

Haliburton OPP is asking residents in these areas of Ritchie Falls Road and Sedgwick Road to check their security cameras for any suspicious activity and report it to police.

Vehicle owners are reminded to always lock your vehicles and close the windows. Unlocked vehicles, and vehicles with valuables visible are the first vehicles targeted. Perpetrators incur more risk of being observed, being identified and getting caught if they are forced to physically break into vehicles.

Members of the Haliburton OPP are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value your contribution to building safe communities. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-822-8457 (TIPS) or www.khcrimestoppers.com.

Submitted

Snowmobiles sink on Gull Lake

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to two snowmobiles that went through the ice on Gull Lake.

On Jan. 18, just after 2 p.m., members of Haliburton OPP, with the assistance from the Minden Hills Fire Department along with Haliburton County EMS and City of Kawartha Lakes EMS paramedics, responded to two snowmobiles that went through the ice on Gull Lake, near Schaefers Road in Minden Hills Township. Officers learned that one snowmobile driver had gone into the lake with their machine and was able to get out and onto the ice. A second driver had their snowmobile break through the ice but was able to remain on the ice and not go in the water. Good Samaritans attempted a rescue these parties but were not successful.

The Minden Fire Department members attended the scene with their rapid deployment craft (RDC). Firefighters were able to rescue the two persons from the ice that were approximately 800 feet from shore with the assistance of Haliburton OPP officers and paramedics and were able to pull them to shore. Luckily, neither of the riders were injured as a result of the incident.

Almost all recreational activities involve some risk, especially those that involve the use of frozen lakes, rivers and streams. It is important to remember that what appears to be frozen, could in fact be ice that is not capable of supporting any weight at all.

It's critically important to determine the quality and thickness of ice before venturing out onto it. Ice can change very quickly, and its appearance can be misleading. No ice goes without risks and snowmobiling over frozen bodies of water poses a significantly larger risk.

For more information regarding ice safety please visit the following sites:

Ice fishing - Ontario.ca
Ice Safety - Canadian Red Cross
Ice Safety - Canada.ca

Submitted

Thin ice

Members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP Detachment would like to remind all area residents, cottagers, contractors and any other potential ice surface users to stay clear of our area water surfaces as very little ice, if any, has formed due to abnormal weather conditions. The lack of ice and vast areas of open water is creating possible dangerous situations for you and responding emergency services personnel. Every year, needless preventable tragedies occur on our area water and ice surfaces which could have been avoided, and emergency services are counting on you to make that decision to stay OFF the ICE.

Any ice surface user must remember that no ice is safe ice, and that any travel on the current water/ice surface conditions, if any ice should even exist, should be wearing proper survival clothing/suit, having a fully charged cell phone along with telling a friend, neighbour, family member or work supervisor of your destination.

Submitted

Sudoku brought to you by

SUDOKU

				9				
	4	6						
8				1			7	
	5		7					2
	8	3			2			1
		2	8			6		
						3	6	7
		7				5		
	9	1			5			

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 4

Maxwell
SIGNATURE REALTY

MCGILLIVRAY™
Trusted*

MAXWELL SIGNATURE REALTY

Melanie MAXWELL-HEVESI* Broker & Andrea WILSON Broker

MAXWELLSIGNATURE.COM
maxwellsignaturerealty
705.854.1000

2022*
CERTIFIED LUXURY HOME MARKETING SPECIALIST ELITE GUILD CLHMS

CENTURY 21
Granite Realty Group Inc.
BROKERAGE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

Since 1882.

When we started in Britain, you were still using wooden pucks. 140 years later, let's break the ice.

FITZDARES

SPORTS BETTING & CASINO

iGaming ONTARIO

Ontario only. Please play responsibly. Questions or concerns about your gambling or that of someone close to you? Please go to ConnexOntario.ca

19+

Huskies Hockey

It was a nail-biter of a game as the Haliburton County Huskies hosted the Wellington Dukes in Minden on Jan. 18. The fast-paced battle had both teams finding the back of the net on multiple occasions, but the Huskies came out on top with a 5-4 win after two consecutive overtime periods. The next home game is on Jan. 25, and will be the last local game of the regular season. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Home Game

PICKERING PANTHERS VS HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Saturday, Jan 25 - 4 p.m.

Final Regular Season Home Game

KING REBELLION

Thursday, January 30 - 7 p.m.

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

For more information please visit our website

WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS
IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills has received an application to consider a by-law to stop up, close, and convey a parcel of land, being a shoreline road allowance, and more particularly described as follows:

1. **File No. PLSRA2024031**: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Soyers Lake, lying in front of 1056 Renown Drive, located within Part Lot 28, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden.

2. **File No. PLSRA2024037**: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Davis Lake, lying in front of 1257 Canuck Trail, located within Part Lot 10, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Lutterworth.

The above noted application is available for inspection in the Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned.

AND TAKE NOTICE should you wish to provide comments with respect to the above referenced application, please submit in writing those comments to the undersigned not later than February 22, 2025.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned not later than February 22, 2025.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE if deemed advisable, a By-law giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills. Please note that a Council meeting to consider a By-law for the above referenced applications will be scheduled at a later date following the requiste commenting period.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning
Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 Ext. 506
adougherty@mindenhills.ca

Minden Times Classifieds

Call 705-286-1288 classifieds@haliburtonpress.com Deadline 4 pm Each Monday

210 FIREWOOD FOR SALE

CUT SPLIT & DELIVERED seasoned firewood 90% maple/all hardwood. Very clean wood. Dry also available. CALL AND INQUIRE: **705-930-7198**

280 ITEMS WANTED

Wanted: scrap cars and trucks. Please call **705-286-3758** or cell **249-332-1212**

380 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

SELF CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent, discounts available located on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton. **CALL 705-457-1224**

360 SERVICES

Handyman Service:
Carpentry , General Repairs ,
Call or Text Doug at **416-889-8534**

Mike A. Thomson General Contracting Roofing - Garages - Carpentry & Repairs Call Today!
705 457-6365

CANOE 100.9 FM
RADIO WITH CHARACTER
Bill Gliddon
our much-loved host of "Concert Hall"
Each Sunday 7-9pm
proud to be the voice of the Haliburton Highlands
Discover us at www.canoefm.com
RADIO BINGO EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT @ 6PM
BINGO!

360 SERVICES

Same Day Screen Repair
Custom Screen Manufacturing, All Styles, Shapes & Types.
Call or visit the
CARRIAGE HOUSE
705-286-2994
www.haliburtonroom.com

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Hiring: regular massage support, experience good but not necessary, will train you. Btwn Minden/ Carnarvon. $28-36+/hr negotiable 1-2x week. theheartwoodfarm@gmail.com

595 BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Nicolas Smith, who celebrated his 31st birthday on Monday.

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Hudson
HUDSON HENDERSON INSURANCE BROKERS

Job Title: Administrative Assistant
Location: Haliburton
Job Type: Full-time

About Us:
Hudson Henderson Insurance Brokers is a forward-thinking insurance firm committed to providing unparalleled service and innovative solutions to our clients.

We are looking for a motivated and detail-oriented individual to join our team as an Administrative Assistant.

Key Responsibilities:
- Assist licensed insurance brokers in preparing quotes and policy proposals for clients.
- Perform administrative tasks such as data entry, filing, and maintaining client records.
- Provide exceptional customer service by addressing client inquiries and processing policy changes.
- Collaborate with the sales team to identify new business opportunities and follow up on leads.
- Support the processing of insurance applications and claims.
- Stay up-to-date with industry trends and changes in insurance regulations.

Qualifications:
- High school diploma or equivalent; additional education or certifications in Insurance or a related field is a plus.
- Strong organizational and multitasking skills.
- Excellent communication and customer service skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Outlook).
- Attention to detail and the ability to work independently.
- Prior experience in the insurance industry or a related field is preferred but not required.

Benefits:
- Competitive salary
- Benefit Options
- Paid time off and holidays.
- Opportunities for professional development and career advancement.

How to Apply:
Please submit your resume and a cover letter outlining your qualifications and interest in the position to info@hudsonhenderson.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

650 OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of
Inge March
June 6, 1936 - January 10, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Inge March who left us on January 10th, 2025 at the age of 88. Inge lived a long and beautiful life, full of love, laughter and so many good memories. She always enjoyed spending time with her family at the lake, taking care of her gardens and animals, travelling, and working on countless artistic projects.

Inge will be deeply missed by her husband of 60 years, Jack, her son John, daughter Tara, son-in-law Peter, her grandchildren Madeline and Evan, as well as many other family members and friends.

The family would like to offer their sincerest thanks to the staff at Hyland Crest for the amazing care that they provided for Inge. As per Inge's request, no funeral will be held at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to The Alzheimer's Society or a charity of your choice.

You will forever be in our thoughts and memories.

Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. & Pre-Planning Centre
www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

Minden Times
Classifieds
Call 705-286-1288 classifieds@haliburtonpress.com Deadline 4 pm Each Monday

650 OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of
Mervyn "Merv" Rivers

Passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at the age of 82.

Beloved husband of the late Rhonda (2012) (nee Gilbert). Dear father of Wayne Rivers, Pamela Rivers (Neil Cope) and Michelle Cooper (Robert Wallis). Loving pop to Kevin Cooper (Jossolyn Allison) Craig Cooper (Megan MacDuff), Randi Winn (Kenton Winn) and great pop to Addy and Deakin. Predeceased by his parents Alice and Wesley. Dear brother of Ron (deceased), Jean, Lorrie (Burt), Ray (Adele), Wendy (Neil) and Roy (Celine). Fondly remembered by many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Friends are invited to join the family at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery for a Graveside Committal and Interment Service at a date to be announced.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Royal Canadian Legion Br. 129 Poppy Fund would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of
Barbara Ann Barker (nee Bird)

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at the age of 62.

Beloved wife of Stephen Barker, dear mother of Curtis and Megan, Gavin and Sammie, loving nana of Sienna and Terra. Dear daughter of Beau and his wife Verna and predeceased by her mom Marylou, sister of Penny (Al Northey), Jim (Heather), Randy (Angie). Daughter-in-law of Ann and the late Don Barker, sister-in-law of David and Leeanna. Fondly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family and friends. Barbara worked for the LCBO for 27 years in Minden, Haliburton and Wilberforce.

Barbara's wish was for cremation and no services.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or Peterborough Regional Health Centre Foundation for the Cancer Clinic would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

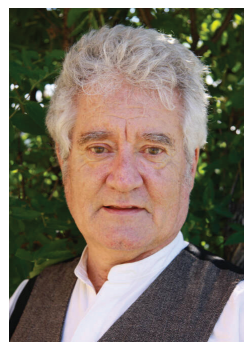
600 FUNERAL SERVICES

Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. & Pre-planning Centre
"Serving Haliburton and Victoria Counties"
(705) 286-2181
Toll Free 1-888-588-5777
Fax: 705-286-6661
127 Main St., Minden
Call for information explaining many of the options available to you.
We can help...
- We offer pre-need and at need packages for cremation, burial and memorial arrangements
- Family and reception centre
- Kids play room
- Bereavement support, services & lending library
- Affordable cost options
Representatives for Lons Memorials (visit our on site display) • www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

Haliburton Community Funeral Home
"Providing a Service that respects your wishes"
13523 Highway 118, Haliburton
705.457.9209
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

Sanderson Monument Est. 1872
~ SINCE 1872 ~
Five Generations of Excellence
Serving Haliburton, Minden Hills, Kawartha Lakes & Brock Township
Len Thornbury
705.324.9222
Office & Showroom
17 Russell St. W.
(Royal Plaza)Lindsay
1.800.461.0282
www.sandersonmonument.ca

Launcelot "Guy" Pritchard



Launcelot "Guy" Pritchard, in the twilight of his 70th year, took his graceful departure on January 13, 2025. Guy shall forever be cherished for his delightful wit and extraordinary tenor voice.
A born entertainer and gifted songwriter, Guy graced local stages, portraying memorable characters such as the Admiral in HMS Pinafore, and shared his talents with Serendipity and at Open Stages. Throughout his illustrious 27-year teaching career and as a cross-country ski coach, he enriched the lives of many.

His absence will be profoundly felt by his beloved wife Laurel, step-daughter April (David), her daughter Ashley (Lewis), great-grandson Rhett, sister Pamela, and brother Geoff (Mychelle). The music community mourns the loss of a true luminary.

Guy's legacy will continue to inspire those who had the privilege to know him and those who will come to learn of his remarkable contributions. As we remember him, let us celebrate the joy and harmony he brought into our lives, and may his spirit forever resonate in the music he loved so dearly.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Guy's life will be held on Thursday, January 23rd, 2025 from 4 - 6 in **THE COMMUNITY ROOM** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, Ontario. For those who have stories and memories to share, we invite you to do so at 5:00 pm for our time of remembrance. As an expression of sympathy, please consider making a donation to the Kidney Foundation, Hospice Peterborough, or the HHHS Foundation in Guy's honour. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0 705-457-9209.

Community Funeral Home
www.communityfuneralhomes.com

CONNECT with Local Businesses

BUILDING SUPPLIES

castle building centres **EMMERSON RENT-ALL**

Husqvarna STIHL

63 Maple Ave., Haliburton Phone: 705-457-1550
Out of Town Customers Call: 1-888-339-3325
email: information@emmersonlumber.com • www.emmersonlumber.com

Cottage Country Building Supplies castle building centres

15492 Hwy #35, Carnarvon
Phone: 705-489-2212 Toll Free:1-844-308-4212
www.cottagecountrybuildingsupplies.com

HEATING & COOLING

KEGEL
HEATING & COOLING

Tim Kegel

- Geothermal Systems
- Furnaces
- Fireplaces
- Hot Water Tanks
- Air Conditioning
- HRV's
- Radiant Floor Heating
- Chimneys
- Ductwork
- Radiant Tube Heaters
- Gas Piping
- Boilers
- AND MORE

Bus: 705-341-9170
Email: info@kegelheatingandcooling.ca

SEPTIC SERVICES

SEPTIC & HOLDINGTANK PUMPING & INSTALLATIONS
SHEPHERD
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
PORTABLE TOILETS, EXCAVATING
Year Round Service

YOUR SEWAGE SYSTEM EXPERTS
705.454.3744 or 705.887.1503
www.shepherdenvironmental.ca
YEAR ROUND PUMPING SERVICE

BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS

Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF)
insulation, vapour barrier and studs in one form

Everything you need for an ICF Build
block, rebar, foam, bracing, zip ties and more...

Guided installs and experienced local builder referrals

EVERYTHINGICF BY WOOD LUMBER

Office: 705.306.4911
Toll Free:1-866-383.9663
Web: everythingicf.ca
Email: help@everythingicf.ca

amvic building system

7581 Hwy 118, Minden Hills

FLOORING SERVICES

CHAPMAN INSTALLATIONS
HALIBURTON, ON
TILE | NATURAL & VENEER STONE
LAMINATE | LVP | HARDWOOD

Jamie Chapman
Flooring Contractor
705-205-5078
chapmaninstallations0@gmail.com

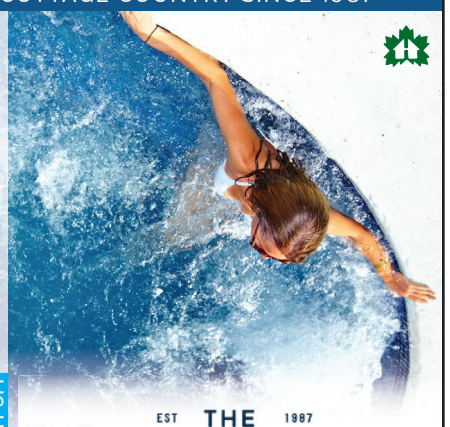
FRENCH
Septic Pumping
Septic & Holding Tanks Pumped
705. 457.1152
Mike & Laura Shepherd
Email: lshepherd@shepherdenvironmental.ca
Year Round Service

WATER & WELL SERVICES

SERVING COTTAGE COUNTRY SINCE 1987

- Water Treatment Systems
- Winter Water Systems
- Well Systems
- Waste Water Systems
- Viqua UV Systems
- Heat Cables
- Hot Water Tanks
- Hot Tub Water Care Service
- Beachcomber Hot Tubs
- Marquis Spas
- Operations of Small Drinking Water Systems
- Limited Sub Systems
- Well Contractor
- Well Technician

LIC. UNDER M.O.E.



EST THE 1987
PUMP SHOP
WATER SPECIALISTS

5161 County Road 21, Haliburton, ON
ThePumpShop.ca | info@thepumpshop.ca
705.457.2638 | 888.312.PUMP

CHIMNEY SERVICES

MYERS CHIMNEY
A Division of 2277341 ONTARIO INC.

- Sweeping • Installation
- Repair • Inspection
- Stove Glass Replacement
- Wood & Pellet Stove Sales & Service

WETT CERTIFIED
NATIONAL CHIMNEY SWEEP GUILD MEMBER

Visit our showroom on South Lake Road
705-286-1245
www.myerschimney.com
Blaze King

MASONRY SERVICES

D & K Epoxy Solutions
Epoxy coverings, the future of durability, style and quality we stand behind...

- Professional Grade Products For Residential And Commercial
- Floor Grinding, Polishing, And Repairs.
- Decorative Coatings
- Metallic Epoxy Floors
- Chips And Quartz Floor Systems
- Indoor And Outdoor
- Cover Plywood, Concrete, Decks And More...

Derek Rowden dandkepoxy@hotmail.com | www.dandkepoxy.com
705-754-0466 WSIB Coverage | Fully Insured

COTTAGE SERVICES

Cottage Maintenance

HOT TUB SALES & MAINTENANCE

Weekly/Bi-weekly Cottage Surveillance
Snow Removal of Decks/Walkways/ Roofs
UV Systems & Filters, Firewood

Relax ..... Let me do the work! Fully Insured

Call or text Norm Barry
705 457 0153
info@normbarry.com
www.normbarry.ca

- Concrete Slabs
- Block & ICF Foundations
- Specializing in Foundation Sealing
- Epoxy Floors

D&K MASONRY

Derek Rowden
705-754-0466

dandkmasonry@msn.com
www.dandkmasonry.com

QUALITY WORKMANSHIP | Fully Insured

Our Success Is Driven By Good Old-Fashioned Value & Service

To place your business card in the directory call today!

Jennifer McEathron
Sales Representative
705-457-5747
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

Laura Smith
Sales Representative
705-854-0294
laura@haliburtonpress.com

The Times
The Echo Haliburton County
County Life

Clearance Time
on used
Snowmobiles
PRENTICE POWER SPORTS LTD.
Hwy.35, south of Minden
286-2750
"Canada's #1 Ski-Doo dealer"

THE TIMES MINDEN
A publication of Algonquin Graphics Limited

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2002
No. 2039

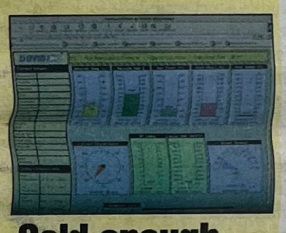
$1 INCLUDING GST

FOR SALE
MAPLE LAKE
Brick home, large 3 bedrooms, 3 pc ensuite, 2 fireplaces, full basement, attached garage, also large shed at back. Just Listed $195,000
Extra acreage at back of property could be purchased separately, sand beach, across township road.
Ask for Doug Johnson
Doug Johnson
Broker
Countrywide
Haliburton Realty Ltd.
Bus. 286-2882 Res. 489-1234
Countrywide

This week

A fanciful voyage

The Little Prince debuts at the high school Feb. 21. Bring the kids! *Page 14*



Cold enough for ya?

Perfect for weather addicts, the Stanhope Airport now has up-to-the-minute weather on its website. *Page 4*

Notable quotes:

"I want to rap your knuckles because I think that mentality is bull in this community."
Sally Moore, page 10

Commentary

"Hey! Ho! We will jump! Now it's time to drop that trump!" Steve Galea talks about A Bridge Too Far ... and other unimaginable things.

Beyond 35, page 9

Bring it back!

Minden Hills reeve wants to revisit clean & clear by-law

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

To be clean and clear or not to be clean and clear? Minden Hills Reeve Ross Rigney wants an answer.

Rigney is ready to reintroduce the contentious clean and clear by-law for consideration of council and committee.

"I want it on the table as soon as possible," Rigney said at the legislation, by-law and fire committee meeting last week.

Rigney was prepared to start circulating the by-law in the public to garner comments and suggestions from taxpayers in Minden Hills.

The only problem standing in the way could be procedural limitations.

Councillor Peter Oyler wasn't

see BY-LAW *page 2*

Darren Lum/TIMES

Are you SURE this is OK?

Two-year-old Annie Lyons from Hunstville pets "Flower" the skunk who lies in the arms of Julie Lacroix from the Muskoka Wildlife Centre. It was centre's (and Annie's) first time at the annual Dorset Snowball which attracted nearly twice as many people as last year – more than 2000.

OPP prepped for any emergency – well, almost

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

The local detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police is prepared for any type of emergency that might happen in the county - well almost any.

"Other than response to a liquid or gas type of hazardous materials, I think we are in pretty good shape," said Staff Sgt. Bob Walli of the OPP.

Walli was on hand at the Minden Hills legislation, building, by-law and fire committee meeting on February 12 to answer questions about the OPP's responsibilities in the county's emergency plan. After a recent sewage spill on Lake Kashagawigamog, council has been reviewing protocol and emergency preparation in the county.

In response to September 11, there have obviously been some changes in how emergency personnel approach situations, Walli said.

After the terrorist attacks in the United States, the OPP dealt

see MINDEN *page 2*

Stockwell in neighbourhood to fight for premier's job

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

Chris Stockwell was in Lindsay last week making his pitch for leadership of the Provincial Progressive Conservative Party. Stockwell says he is the best choice to replace Mike Harris, who will turn over the Premier's job to his successor in March.

The Tory Party's Common Sense Revolution, Stockwell says, has served its purpose. It has been very successful and he says he is proud of how well it has served Ontarians. But, he says, a revolution has a start, a middle and an end. He believes that revolution has successfully reached its end and it is time to move on with a new vision.

Stockwell says his vision for Ontario's future includes increased spending on health care, a moratorium on changes to the education system and a different approach to how government business is carried out, including more free votes.

"We did a good job on the Common Sense Revolution," Stockwell said, pointing out that if he is elected to lead the party, he will continue with the principles that enabled the province to get back on its feet.

Health care is foremost on the minds of Ontarians. Stockwell said he would do his best to instill the fact that health care isn't free. He said it has been predicted that the cost of health care will soon consume 60 per cent of the provincial budget.

He said he will continue to lobby the federal government to live up to its previous commitment to pay 50 per cent of the cost of health care. "The feds are not paying their fair share," he said, noting that the province is paying 85 per cent, while the federal government antes up only 15 per cent.

But, he has a plan. He would institute a health care premium, whereby a family would pay $68 per year or an individual would pay $34 per annum. He said the health care premium program would also have the benefits of showing who is using the system, how much it is costing for them to use the system, who is eligible and it would eliminate mistakes which are made in billing and control fraud. "It has been estimated that there is a billion dollars a

see STOCKWELL *page 3*

COLDWELL BANKER
WILEY REAL ESTATE
Minden • Hwy. 35 & Main St.
286-4441 1-800-701-7331

AL MAYO
Sales Representative

JOHN HINCKS
Assoc. Broker/Manager

ANNE MOULTON
Sales Representative

BOB AUSTIN
Sales Representative

ALF HELLEMAN
Sales Representative

LIST YOUR PROPERTY NOW FOR THE COTTAGE SHOWS

CURRY CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
Proudly Serving & Supporting Our Local Communities Since 1923
CURRY Chevrolet 1923
GMC

THANK YOU!

Your generous donations have ensured 1,530 free, nutritious meals every month right through until next December!

You have helped ensure food security in both Haliburton County and North Hastings, to those who most need it.

THANK YOU! We're truly in this together!

SIRCH community services

49 Maple Ave., Haliburton

705-457-1742